

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Remarks - A. B. Laffer Associates Conference

3 Mar 88

FROM:

William M. Baker *WMB*
Director, Public Affairs

EXTENSION

27676

NO.

PAO 88-0079

DATE

24 Feb 88

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

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COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

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DCI
EXEC
REG

February 24, 1988

JUDGE:

You will be addressing A.B. Laffer Associates, an audience of 35-50 top financial officers at a breakfast meeting on 3 March. The members of the audience will be participating in a conference, discussing economic issues and foreign affairs. I suggest that your remarks cover CIA, foreign policy, and Congress.

The thesis of your proposed remarks is found in the second paragraph of the first page, "Specifically, I want to discuss the role that the CIA plays in supporting and implementing foreign policy--which is not the same as making policy--and I also want to discuss how the CIA's relationship with Congress has changed since the days before legislated Congressional oversight."

You discuss the role of the CIA--to provide intelligence that is useful, timely, and objective; and then mention CIA's role in implementing foreign policy through covert action. On page 6, you discuss the relationship between CIA and Congress. This section begins, "And Congress is very interested in what the CIA does." You compare what we now provide Congress with what was provided before legislated oversight, discussing how we provide information --through briefings, written material, and testimony. You refer to the need to be candid with Congress, the guidelines that were developed to help those in the Agency as they provide information without compromising sources and methods.

You discuss your efforts to establish an open relationship with Congress, commenting on the numbers in both the Senate and the House who have served on Intelligence committees, and you note that they share the responsibility of preserving the nation's intelligence secrets.

After a discussion of secrecy, you explain the laws that define the nature of the relationship between Congress and the Intelligence Community. This section begins at the bottom of page 10 and continues through page 12.

The final section of the speech begins, "Although it is dangerous to predict anything in an election year, I will spend a moment considering the changes that are occurring in intelligence and the kind of information we will be providing Congress and the policy community in the near future." You comment on the increase in the number and diversity of subjects the Intelligence Community is required to address, the different interdisciplinary problems we consider, and, on page 13, briefly discuss technology transfer. You comment on the need to attract "risk takers but not risk seekers," and conclude, "With such people we can continue to provide the intelligence that

policymakers need, observing the rules of oversight and accountability that both Congress and the members of the Intelligence Community insist on."

Your proposed remarks are attached.

STAT



Bill Baker

Attachments:
As stated

PROPOSED REMARKS
BY
WILLIAM H. WEBSTER
BEFORE THE
A.B. LAFFER ASSOCIATES CONFERENCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
MARCH 3, 1988

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FOOTNOTES

¹ This information on the very limited access Congress once had to classified information is from a letter Ambassador Richard Helms sent to the Central Intelligence Retirees Association (CIRA) on 22 January 1988. Judge Webster also used this information in his remarks to CIRA on 8 February 1988.

² Statistics on the number of briefings the CIA gives to Congress and the topics covered is from a presentation by John Helgerson, director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, on 19 February 1988 at CIA Headquarters. Mr. Helgerson addressed the "Friends of Analysis," group of analysts in the Directorate of Intelligence.

³ Information on congressional recipients of CIA assessments and the Agency's daily national intelligence report was drawn from a unclassified article by Robert M. Gates, "The CIA and American Foreign Policy," which appeared in the fall, 1987 issue of "Studies in Intelligence."

⁴ The number of CIA intelligence reports sent to Congress in 1987 was confirmed by an information officer with the Office of Congressional Affairs.

⁵ The percentages of House and Senate members who have served or are currently serving on the congressional intelligence committees were mentioned by John Helgerson during his talk to the "Friends of Analysis" group on 19 February.

⁶ Information on the growing Soviet appetite for American technology was drawn from a speech on technology transfer delivered by Robert M. Gates to the American Electronics Association on 16 February 1988.

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